

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CU-04 IO-12 AID-20 NSC-10 USIA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 824

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 2366

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: YOUTH PARA

REF: STATE 70302

1. ANSWERS WHICH FOLLOW ARE KEYED TO PARAGRAPHS IN REFTEL.

I. A. YOUNG BUREAUCRATS - 40 PERCENT

YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS - 18 PERCENT

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS IN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY - 7 PERCENT

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS IN THE MEDIA - 5 PERCENT

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS IN LAW - 5 PERCENT

YOUNG EDUCATORS - 5 PERCENT

UNIVERSITY STUDENT LEADERS - 5 PERCENT

UNIVERSITY FACULTY (AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY) - 5 PERCENT

YOUNG LABOR LEADERS - 3 PERCENT

YOUNG LEADERS AMONG DISADVANTAGED (ABORIGINES) - 2 PERCENT

YOUNG MILITARY OFFICERS - 5 PERCENT

I. B. THE MISSION HAS FOUND IT DIFFICULT AND UNDESIRABLE

TO CONSIDER AUSTRALIAN YOUTH AS AN ELEMENT OF AUSTRALIAN

SOCIETY APART FROM THE TOTALITY. IT IS THEREFORE,

DIFFICULT TO ASSIGN WEIGHTS TO DIFFERENT CATEGORIES FROM

AMONG WHICH LEADERS ARE LIKELY TO EMERGE. THIS IS

PARTICULARLY TRUE GIVEN THE GENERALLY APOLITICAL NATURE OF

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH (THE TWO NOTABLE RECENT EXCEPTIONS WOULD BE

REACTION TO THE ISSUES OF VIETNAM AND CONSCRIPTION). IN OUR

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JUDGMENT THE PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF FUTURE LEADERS IS THE PRESENT DAY FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY WHERE INCREASINGLY GREATER CHALLENGE IS PRESENTED TO ABLE YOUNGER MEN AS A DYNAMIC NEW GOVERNMENT TAKES THE REINS FROM ITS SOMEWHAT OSSIFIED PREDECESSOR IN POWER FOR 23 YEARS. IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF THE VOTE FOR 18- YEAR- OLDS WILL PROBABLY ENCOURAGE MORE YOUNGER MEN AND WOMEN TO STAND FOR FEDERAL AND STATE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS. THE NUMBER AND INFLUENCE OF YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS IS LIKELY TO INCREASE.

2. PAPUA NEW GUINEA WHICH WILL ACHIEVE FULL SELF- GOVERNMENT THIS YEAR PRESENTS A SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT PICTURE FROM AUSTRALIA WITH MOST POTENTIAL LEADERS EMERGING FROM AMONG YOUNG POLITICIANS.

I. C. THE MISSION DOES NOT ANTICIPATE THAT ANY OF THE CATEGORIES ABOVE WILL HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON U. S. INTERESTS OVER THE SHORT TERM.

II. A. PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF BROAD U. S. GOALS AND POLICIES - 70 PERCENT
DEVELOP INFLUENTIAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH LEADERS OF POLITICALLY AWARE YOUTH AND WITH POTENTIAL FUTURE LEADERS
- 30 PERCENT

II. B. THE MISSION REGARDS A " SOFT SELL" APPROACH TO YOUTH AS MOST EFFECTIVE IN A SOCIETY WITH THE DEGREE OF SOPHISTICATION ACHIEVED IN AUSTRALIA. WE BELIEVE THE BEST " RETURN" LIES IN PRESENTING AMERICA AND ITS POLICIES TO THE WIDEST YOUTH AUDIENCE AND IN SEEKING THEIR OBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT. IMPORTANTLY, BUT SECONDARILY, WE FEEL WE MUST IDENTIFY POTENTIAL LEADERS AND DEVELOP INFLUENTIAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH THEM.

III. A. CU EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL GRANTS AND ALL CATEGORIES OF CU ACADEMIC GRANTS GROUPED TOGETHER ARE ASSIGNED 65 PERCENT. ALL THESE ARE ADMINISTERED IN AUSTRALIA BY THE AUSTRALIAN- AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION AND THE GOA CONTRIBUTES 50 PERCENT OF THE FUNDING.

CU SHORT TERM AMERICAN GRANTEES - 15 PERCENT

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CU INTERNATIONAL VISITOR GRANTS (IN AUSTRALIA THE ASIAN- PACIFIC STUDENT LEADER GRANT) - 20 PERCENT.

APART FROM AN INCREASE IN THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS THERE ARE NO SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN EFFECTIVE NESS. PRIVATE FUNDING OF EXCHANGES (E. G. ROTARY) HAVE BEEN A VALUABLE SUPPLEMENT TO USG PROGRAMS AND SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED.

IV. A. YOUTH EFFORTS RATE AS " MEDIUM" IN IMPORTANCE AMONG OVERALL MISSION CONCERNS IN AUSTRALIA.

IV. B. TO THIS POINT, YOUTH AS AN ELEMENT OF SOCIETY WITHIN AUSTRALIA HAS NOT BEEN ASSIGNED MUCH IMPORTANCE BY AUSTRALIANS THEMSELVES. IN A TRADITIONAL AND ESSENTIALLY CONSERVATIVE SOCIETY, YOUTH LIKE WOMEN HAVE BEEN REGARDED AS PASSIVE, NON- INFLUENTIAL CATEGORIES WELL APART FROM THE POWER STRUCTURE. ROLES FOR BOTH ARE CHANGING AND WE MUST BE ALERT TO THESE CHANGES BUT AT LEAST AS REGARDS YOUTH, NO SHORT OR EVEN MEDIUM TERM ADJUSTMENTS TO OUR PRESENT POLICY ARE INDICATED.

IV. C. PERSONAL TIME:

1) 5 PERCENT OF THE MISSION' S TOTAL PERSONNEL TIME OR 6860 HOURS SHOULD BE DEVOTED TO YOUTH WORK. HALF THIS TIME SHOULD BE ALLOCATED TO PROGRAM WORK; HALF TO CONTACT WORK. USIA WOULD BEAR 50 PERCENT OF THE EFFORT, STATE 40 PERCENT, AND DOD 10 PERCENT.

2) 20 PERCENT OF OUR CU BUDGET AND 20 PERCENT OF OUR USIA BUDGET SHOULD BE APPLIED TO YOUTH AND POTENTIAL FUTURE LEADERSHIP PURPOSES.
RICE

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